OK TO ENTER: /MR/ (02/11/2010)

| **AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116**<br><br>Address to:<br>Mail Stop AF<br>Commissioner for Patents<br>P.O. Box 1450<br>Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 | | |
|---|---|---|
| | Attorney Docket | GUID-101CON4 |
| | Confirmation No. | 2180 |
| | First Named Inventor | Spence |
| | Application Number | 10/683,797 |
| | Filing Date | 10/10/03 |
| | Group Art Unit | 3773 |
| | Examiner Name | Ryckman, Melissa K. |
| | Title | Means and Method for Performing an Anastomosis |

Sir:

This amendment is responsive to the Final Office Action dated November 23, 2009 for which a three-month period for response was given making this response due on or before February 23, 2009. This response is being filed within the two-month period ending on January 25, 2010 (January 23, 2010 being a Saturday). In view of the amendments to the claims and the remarks put forth below, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested. Applicants submit that the amendments set forth below raise no new issues. Rather, the amendments place the claims in form for allowance or in better form for appeal. Entry of these amendments is thus respectfully requested.